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Carnegie - Mellon University

Office of the President 5000 Forbes Avenue Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15213 [412] 578-2200

June 10, 1986

Executive Registry

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Dear Mr. Casey:

I understand that the National Security Council will be discussing the question of access to supercomputers by foreign nationals.

I am enclosing a copy of a letter I have sent to the General Counsel of the National Science Foundation, Mr. Charles H. Herz. I hope you will find it useful in your deliberations.

Sincerely,

Richard M. Cyert

Mr. William J. Casey Director Central Intelligence Agency Washington, D.C. 20505

enclosure

DCI EXEC REG

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Carnegie -Mellon University

Office of the President 5000 Forbes Avenue Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15213 [412] 578-2200

March 28, 1986

Dear Mr. Herz:

We are pleased to comment on the recent letter by counsel on the regulations for usage of the supercomputer.

It is critical for any university to allow its students full use of its facilities. A university cannot call itself a university if it attempts to perform national security checks on its students. Students coming into a university from whatever country have a right to expect to be treated equally with respect to facilities and other means of education.

We could not, for example, conduct classes in which we asked students to leave the room when the time came to discuss a particular topic. Neither can we give assignments and tell certain students that those assignments are not appropriate for them to complete.

Because their function is to disseminate knowledge, universities refuse to involve themselves in classified research. We must be able to publish results, or we cannot perform our functions as universities. The Department of Defense (DoD) has been exceptionally understanding of this important role. Without the willingness of the DoD to give grants and make contracts for unclassified research in universities, the United States would be many years behind in computer science, for example.

We, therefore, urge the DoD to exercise its privileges and responsibilities with regard to security on restricting entry into the United States of those people whom it deems security risks. When students are allowed into the United States to attend universities, we strongly urge that the universities be allowed to treat them as they do other students. We are not equipped to do security checks, and such action is inconsistent with the function of a university. This matter is of extreme importance, and in the relationship among NSF, DoD, and universities, we must pay careful attention to it.

Mr. Charles Herz March 28, 1986 Page Two

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If Soviet researchers do enter the country and there is concern about them, we definitely believe an appeals procedure should be established. Under this procedure Soviet students would be able to gain access to the supercomputer on a case-by-case analysis. This approach would be viable but not preferable. It would still be much better to stop doubtful cases at the border so that the universities would not have to be involved in practices that are alien to their nature.

It is critical for the good of the long-run relationship among NSF, DoD, and the research universities of the country that the openness of the university be respected. Restrictions of any kind that destroy the ability of a member of the academic community to have free access to knowledge or the means to attain knowledge will tend to cripple the basic relationship among the three institutions. For the good of our country, it is vital that this relationship remain a healthy one.

Sincerely,

Richard M. Cyert

President

Carnegie-Mellon University

Wesley W. Posvar

President

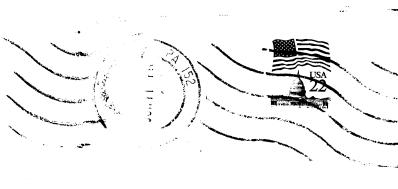
University of Pittsburgh

Mr. Charles Herz General Counsel National Science Foundation 1800 G Street, N. W. Washington, D.C. 20550 Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2011/03/31 : CIA-RDP88G01116R000600740005-0

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Mr. William J. Casey Director Central Intelligence Agency Washington, DC 20505